

**City of Columbus**  
**Proposed Tax Abatement Public Hearing**  
**February 18, 2015**

The Proposed Tax Abatement Public Hearing meeting of the City of Columbus City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Dave Povolny at the City Hall. Present were Council Members Denny Peterson, Mark Daly, Jeff Duraine, and Bill Krebs. City Administrator Elizabeth Mursko; and Interim Secretary Karen Boland.

Absent: None

Also in attendance were: Planning Commission Members Garth Sternberg, Jody Krebs, Jesse Preiner, Pam Wolowski, and James Watson; Julie Eddington of Kennedy & Graven; and Paul Rignell of the Forest Lake Times.

The Council waived the reading of the notice.

Julie Eddington of Kennedy & Graven explained the nature and use of tax abatement bonds. The taxes from the properties identified in the resolution will be reserved by the City to pay for general obligation bonds. Next week the Council will be asked to ratify the sale of those bonds. This will allow the City to acquire the property in the Highway 35 area. The general obligation bonds will refinance the debt from the current lease purchase bonds, at significantly lower interest rates. The general obligation bonds also allow more flexibility for the sale and disposal of the land. The estimated debt service savings will be between \$800,000 and \$1.2 million. There is no negative impact to the owners of the properties identified for abatement.

Mayor Povolny asked for comments from the audience at this time.

There was no response from the audience.  
The Public Hearing was closed at 7:15 p.m.

**Discussion:**

None.

**Motion BON 00300 by Peterson to adopt Resolution No. 15-07 Approving Property Tax Abatement Related to land Acquisition in the City of Columbus. Second by Krebs. Votes as follows: Peterson – aye; Daly – aye; Duraine – aye; Krebs – aye; Povolny – aye. Motion carries.**

The public hearing meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Karen Boland  
Interim Secretary